Volume VIII Chicago, Ill., July, 1931 Number 4

# The Liberalist

Into my heart's treasury I
slipped a coin
That time cannot take, nor thief
perloin.
Oh, better than the minting of a
gold-crowned king
Is the safe-kept memory of a
lovely thing.

—Sarah Teasdale in
"Child Life."

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# THE LIBERALIST

Preston Bradley ..... Editor
Grace Thayer Bradley ..... Associate Editor

Volume VIII Chicago, Ill., July, 1931 Number 4

## *MEDITATION*

"Infinite and everlasting Love, mystery everywhere, defeat all about us, challenge in the air, and yet in the midst of it all we refuse surrender, and we refuse even truce.

We never knew so certainly in whom and in what we do believe as we know today, and no weeping skies and no over cast sky and no environment at all of dampening disintegrating character can keep us from the certain knowledge of our inner consciousness, which has been verified again, and again, and again, that off yonder in that sky, above those storm clouds and away from these tears, there is the sun!

Every flower tells us that today. They are not weeping, they are being caressed by the anguish of the sky, but out from the depths of their hearts they are telling us, in unspeakable language, that sunlight is still there, and the beauty of these peonies that grace our platform this morning with thier lovely hues, everyone of them, blended by the artistry of nature, tell us the sun is shining.

And so today, we would lift our intellects and hearts into such an expression and attitude that we will know, in the divine wedlock of idealism, that there is no permanent disaster for all who think highly and love truly. That would be the thing that would dominate our hearts and minds today, and wherever there is discouragement and sadness, and wherever homes have been visited by silent messengers of the night, and wherever defeat seems to have been coronated, may the vibrant dynamic of these words and the constructive ensemble of this service enter into those hearts and minds with such overwhelming re-organizational power that they will say: "No, it is not true, this disaster is not defeat permanently, this condition does not and will not exist always." May we say, with the ancient philosophers of the past: "This too shall pass away." May every broken body say that today. May every disappointed heart and life say that today, that all this will pass away. The clouds will leave the sky and the light break through and our hearts will be made light with the laughter of beauty and spring and summer, and every heart will become a part of the symphony of Nature, for beyond all the disaster, all the pain and sorrow, trouble and failures and disappointments of life, beyond it all, there comes a moment and an hour when things clear up and the pain leaves and the mind thinks more clearly, and the body refuses to be racked with grief and sorrow. May that time dawn now for many hearts, may this be a service of triumph for many lives. May we walk out from this this place into the storm and may it beat against our faces and against our bodies, and in the beating may we recognize the strength of that which only comes that flowers might have perfume and color, that soil might be enriched and made nutritious, that roots can have a chance to go down much deeper into the soil made moist, and that out of everything there comes beauty and character.

May we see today, as we have never seen before, "sermons in stones, books in running brooks, and good in everything."

# *"GOOD SIGNS IN BAD TIMES"*

**Sermon by Dr. Preston Bradley, Pastor of The Peoples Church of Chicago, June 7th, 1931**

Progressing at once into the subject of the morning, "Good Signs in Bad Times" may I say immediately that perhaps the outstanding good sign in these times which I think most of us admit, and I think ought to admit are frightfully and tragically bad, is to be found in the unexpected sources and unanticipated origins of suggestions for remedies that, with startling alacrity, are breaking forth from personalities that ten or twenty years ago would have made no utterances at all about a situation of economics or industry or government.

Almost every twenty-four hours some outstanding personality in some department of human life has something to say about the way out. The last and most immediate character is William Randolph Hurst, who, in a radio speech which he delivered a few days ago and which is published verbatim in the newspaper of which he is the head, The Chicago Herald Examiner, in today's issue and which I ask that all of you who have not heard the speech, do read it.

One of the interesting signs to me, one of the good and constructive signs is to be found in the adventurousness with which outstanding personalities are becoming vocal for the vast inexpressive group of the mass, as to what we are going to do about the situation—that is one of the good signs of the present. It is always a good sign when great masses of the people and great personalities of the people evidence an interest in the acuteness of the situation to the extent that they will even voice the unpopular and let that expression, from their point of view, a helpful solvent to the situation itself.

There is a little ground work that I would like to do this morning that seems to me to fit into the confines of what I have to say. Not by way of giving you anything new in the philosophy of causation as to what is responsible, first: for conditions, before we see in it two of these most attractive good signs that are upon the horizon. Now, it does not make any difference what we think about it, the fact of the matter is that you cannot begin any discussion which involves the present economic, industrial, intellectual, moral and spiritual unrest of civilization without beginning with those psychological reactions that settled down upon this world immediately after the close of the world war.

Now wherever you begin, you have got to begin with that great tragedy. Don't underestimate the importance of the psychological factors that were loosened and turned loose upon mankind at the cessation of hostilities, that was the moment when the world began to break up, and it began to break up in all of its formations, everything, and the result of that break up could not help but sooner or later percolate down through and into the very structure of civilization itself. The demoralization which was turned loose by the tragic loss of human life itself, the cheapening of life, losing a sense of values, that could not help but sooner or later work its way down through into the entire structure of human life. Now, that's where we have got to begin, and then when you associate and identify with that situation the increasing capacity of man, through inventive

genius, to facilitate manufacturing by machinery and add that to the difficulty, and then when you take into consideration an increase of productivity by all the manufacturing groups of the world thereby making a bid for the world market—on the first day of August, 1914, three words constituted the economic passport to every field in the world. Those three words were "Made in Germany," and the economic supremacy of the German people in the capacity of production, the scientific accuracy by which they went about it, their capacity to enter the competitive markets of the world upon a most formidable basis, all of these things engendered an economic aspect of war itself, and every student of economics has no difficulty in tracing a direct relationship between economics and war. When you cannot get the people to do your will by a process of subserviency, then it is a very good thing to stir them up and get them all excited about some foreign danger, and when it was possible to obscure the eyes of most of the world on the basis of the jeopardy of international ideals, the fact of the matter is that in the background the continuous economic supremacy of a great people had a very important bearing upon certain conditions that obtained and certain actions that took place.

Now, in the cold clear light, separated from any passion or zeal, these facts stand out. Now then, with the whole economic situation developing as it did through the capacity for mass production, which was inevitable with the introduction of the machine, the same type of genius that could develop industry to the point where that industry would be so compelling and so necessary to the wants of mankind that vast, colossal enterprises were the results, and then, due to the rapidity by which manufacturing was accelerated by the machine, it was not very long before they, with their fine genius and organizational capacity, could produce more than the public could absorb, with the result that it was not long before there was the tragedy of overproduction in all of the markets of our domestic manufacturing concerns, with the inevitable results that that meant a cessation of manufacturing processes which could only be maintained by a releasement of employment, for the moment the factory has stocked its warehouses and glutted its territory, that factory must stop manufacturing, and when it stops manufacturing it must lay off men, with the result that the moment you have a man laid off you have destroyed that man's purchasing power, and economic prosperity and industrial stability depend upon the purchasing power of the public. That's axiomatic! That's almost bromidic these days.

That constitutes one of the fundamentally basic truths of the whole business—that the purchasing power must be maintained, and the purchasing power is not maintained without stabilization of employment, and stabilization of employment cannot exist unles there is a scientific manufacturing process based upon the economic law of supply and demand. Now, that's the whole business, ladies and gentlemen, in a nutshell. Don't let anyone obscure your minds with all sorts of issues. It is very simple, it is not intricate or complicated at all.

Now, what are some of the ways that we could hopefully suggest—and I cannot tell you how I hesitate to do it. My word! sometimes it dawns upon me what right have I to stand here in a pulpit, with a great responsibility of the radio, and think that I have got an answer at all to this situation. Nobody has much respect for a preacher's point of view on economics or

what a preacher thinks about business. What do I know about it? I don't know anything about it, I don't like it, I am not in business and as long as I can make a living without it I am not going into business. All that I might have to say to you today I know can be discounted by the scientifically trained economist and the business man, and so I want you to understand that I am really doing it modestly. I don't think anything I suggest will probably ever be recognized in a way that will be at all pragmatic.

We are here face to face with a condition that everybody knows and all of us are experiencing, and yet about the most able gesture you can get at times from the very ones who ought to be leading in the program is an interview with Roger Babson who says: "Three months ago things have been at their very worst and ever since we have been getting better." Somebody says "Times are better, everything will be fine!" A man came out within the last twenty-four hours who said: "Just as soon as bedrock has been reached!" How many times have I heard that phrase in the last six months? I have heard very important men, I have been to a great many dinners and I have heard big men get up and say: "My dear friends, just as soon as we know the bottom has been reached then things will change!" (Laughter) Well, now, that's utter asininity, because if you eliminate any questions involved at all, logic says that. Let's eliminate conditions, just use logic, and that is what —when things get so bad that they cannot get any worse, what must they do?

Now my point is that I am not going to wait, if I can make any contribution at all to the situation, by that asinine attitude of waiting until things get so bad that the only thing that can obtain is to get better. (Laughter)

In the first place, things are not as bad as they could get. That's a good thing for the American people to awaken to, and that is one of the best signs. Things could be a lot worse in America than they are. In every business and in every enterprise things are not as bad as they could go, the bottom has not been reached, and we hope it never will be. I think it is wholly unnecessary to go any nearer the bottom than we are now, but we are not at the bottom. I could paint a picture here, were it not for its purely psychological effect and I did not feel the responsibility of my utterances in the conditions of my time, of what could happen in America that the very suggestion of the picture would be disastrous, and I refuse to do it. The only thing that I want to say is this, that I don't care how bad things or times are with you or with me, with this church or this business, or how terrible the situation is, it is not as bad as it could be.

Now, that's the first thing to get into your minds. I look out at this congregation and you all look pretty well dressed, and judging from the automobiles in the front of the church most of you came in automobiles, and most of you had a nickel or a dime to come over in a bus or street car, if you didn't I will give you one—after the collection (laughter)—you do not look starved, you look worried, and I think you think the same thing of me, I am not starving to death and I am inclined to rather of a pleasing plumpness and I rather like it! Now, that is one of the biggest things that I shall say to you this morning—the fact that **there is a way out and up from where we are, without going any deeper down,** that's the point, and I think it is a terrible psychology for a lot of people—and I hear it repeatedly—do say to me: "Oh, Doctor Bradley, it is getting worse all the time, the

bottom has not been reached yet!" Why do you talk about this "bottom" business all the time? Why do you let it enter into your psychology? Don't I know, from an unquestioned report of a great labor institution, the American Federation of Labor, that in the last five months two billion five hundred millions of dollars has been taken out of the channels of American business because working men have been laid off, and what they earn represents two billion, five hundred millions of dollars? I know that that is a verification of what I have said, that merely affirms my original thesis as to the cause of the situation.

Now, in these closing moments, I want to be practical, most of us are not, we are supposed to talk about the "Sweet Bye and Bye" and not be concerned with the "Nasty Now and Now," we are supposed to speculate on what happens to us when we are dead and not what is taking place now!

I see good signs on the horizon. I am going to submit them to you for what they are worth, and begin by saying this: one very serious concern of the present is the lack of confidence, frequently justified, by which a great many people are seriously jeopardizing sound financial institutions that are primarily necessary for economic and industrial success. I am saying this—many of the banks that are closing their doors are not insolvent, and at a critical moment like this there should be a group of unquestioned financiers, political economists and social philosophers formed into a credit committee that should have discretionary powers above a local state bank examiner, or group of bank examiners, who could go in with a power, probably confirmed by a statute of legislature—now, I have not heard this from a living soul, I challenge anyone to show me any other person that suggested this idea, it came entirely out of my own mind,—but if I were the governor of this state and my legislature adjourned without doing it, I would see that legislative enactment (and I believe it could be done by the legislature)—I am confining it to the states rather than a federal project just now—that a group of that character whose business it would be to eliminate fraud and dishonesty in the individual bank (we are not dealing with that phrase of it now) but whose business it would be to take the assets of that institution, which are glibly, in most cases, spoken of by bank examiners, who are frequently nothing more or less than just auditors, who look at the thing purely from a technical, mathematical point of view, people like that irritate me, for they do not use any intellect at all in a philosophical way, but they take those assets of those banks and use the phrase "frozen assets!" More crimes have been committed by that phrase than any other phrase. Has anyone assets that are not frozen? When it comes to "frozen assets" we are all of us freezing to death. (Laughter) When you take an emergency—now this is an emergency—and it is acute like this situation, what must you do in any emergency? There are special situations to face and you cannot face special situations in an emergency with tactics that prevailed under normal conditions! If that is not logic, I will take it all back.

I see representative men in the audience this morning and if I am wrong I would like to hear from them, and if I am right I would like a little encouragement. (Quiet applause) When I take this proposition of good sign, I would take the finest group of men, I would comb this state and this city up one side and down the other and I would keep it not too large, I would make it not to exceed twelve men, and I would take the matter out of the hands

of the state banking department and I would let those men pass on the financial status of every individual bank that was having difficulties, and then I would finance the "frozen assets" through the period of acute conditions, and I would have the working people and the widows and those who have put their life's savings in the banks, and I would come out at the end of a five or ten year period without loss to a single depositor, and pay interest on every dollar! (Applause) I am only a preacher but if they will turn the banking interests of the State of Illinois over to me, I guarantee that not a single depositor will lose a dollar in the next ten years.

That's a plain, simple proposition on the face of it, because, in the first place, values are real. I know this, that bond houses and banking houses went out and made ridiculous loans on inflated values, and then they sold the bonds to you—they did not sell any to me, but they sold them to you. I don't own a dollar's worth of stocks or bonds, I haven't a penny's worth, and never did have. I knew five years ago what was going to happen, and so did some of you, others have smiled. Some stocks never were worth 284, and some of you held on to go to 300 and you got it "in the neck" didn't you? Of course you did. Two things, false valuation, and your greed! You may not like that very well, but it is the truth and we have to acknowledge it.

But I know that there were false values, there were bond issues for enough money to buy the land, pay for the building and the commission besides. There is always a day of reckoning for things like that! You cannot violate any law and not pay for it. So one of the good signs is that there is going to be a stabilization of values that will be determined on valuations and the element of speculation, and we were all speculators—I am not. I have mine in a little island with a little house on it that is all paid for.

There was that great idea of speculation! You would get into an elevator and there was the elevator boy with his nose in the newspaper reading the stock reports! You would go into a barbershop and the barber would entertain you all the time you were there telling you what the financial situation was and what he was going to do, he was buying stock! You would get your shoes shined and the little Greek bootblack was telling you about financial conditions, how he was buying stock! And they cleaned out the whole business! Now, we were all in that period of speculation and you know the difficulty—most of us wanted a dollar that we did not earn,—and one of the good signs of this time is that those of us who now are missing our dollars will, when we we get the next one, realize more about its honest value, and we will be a little more careful than some of us have been.

The last hopeful sign that I shall speak about this morning—it is really a great subject and I love it because there is a way out, I can see the skies brightening. There have been only four kinds of doctrines of progress, aristocratic, the anarchistic, the socialistic which I will not enter into, and the last one the democratic doctrine of progress. Under these three philosophies of progress man is going to work out, with a litle bit of the best from each one I think, a new doctrine of progress.

It is not going to be entirely aristocratic, so nobody is going to get excited when a rich man's son marries a woman twenty years older than he is (laughter) and it is not going to interest anybody. We are not going to get excited about some of these things. We will take the best from the aristocratic doctrine, THE BEST, for aristocracy at its

best has never yet, and never will depend only upon dollars and wealth. Aristocracy at its best is not a question of money. O, I'd like to preach a sermon right here on the subject, but I won't (Laughter).

The best from the aristocratic doctrine, the best from the anarchistic doctrine,—there is a certain elemental individual sensitiveness that make men shudder about a high doctrine of anarchy, which when philosophically expressed meets its highest expression in the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you" is the philosophy of anarchy. If all of us did that, we would need no law.

So we are going to take some of the best from that, and then there is that fine old doctrine of the socialistic doctrine of progress which gives a social sensitization to life, and by the philosophy of common ownership and common interest we have a deeper awareness of where we are all going together, for one thing is certain, never before in the history of mankind was the money of capital and the money of labor (what little it has left)—never before in the history of the world were these two things so interwoven and dependent upon each other! The capitalist today, with gold rolling in his vaults, is a poor man. What good is it? Labor today, out of a job, is a poor man, and they, neither one, can posper or get out of the condition they are in without getting closer together themselves. (Applause) That's the situation. Capital is beginning to see that. So we are going to take the best of the socialistic doctrine and the democratic doctrine and we will blend it all together in one fine expression of progress.

I am going to stand with my face to the East, that's where the sun comes up, I am not going to wait for things to get any worse, I am going to advocate a constructive attitude toward life in business, in education, in everything.

I can see clearly what things would help, and my plea this morning is to the capitalist, to the man who has, and they are more worried than some of the rest of us. I do not suppose there is an important financier in the United States today who is not worried. This thing has really hit the rich almost as hard as it has the poor. The rich today are suffering with the rest of us. Here is the thing for which I am appealing to you—that we work for a conversion and scientific understanding of the situation, and then realize this truth: that in an emergency you have got to deal with the unusual that do not obtain in times of normalcy.

I was down in Indiana this week and I shared the program with a member of the United States Congress. One of the most hopeful things of the present is the fact that people are electing men like this man to Congress. I don't know his equal. This is his first term, he goes for the first time in December. He shared the program with me and I drove back with him to South Bend to get a train, and he read me a letter which he wrote to the Honorable Carter Glass at Washington, D. C. One of the hopeful signs is that the United States Congress, the Senate, passed a resolution that a committee be appointed, which now has a subcommittee on banking and currency, to go over the whole federal reserve banking system—and it needs going over. Now, this man, Mr. Samuel B. Pettengill of the 13th District of the State of Indiana, wrote this letter to Carter Glass in Washington, D. C., that, to my mind, is one of the greatest contributions to the solution of this problem that I have heard. This is his letter: "My dear Senator Glass:

I am taking the liberty to write you as Chairman of the Subcom-

mittee on Banking and Currency, pursuant to Senate Resolution No. 71, to 'make a complete survey of the National and Federal Reserve Banking System.' I know I cannot add to your fund of information but, nevertheless, for its possible cumulative effect, let me say:

There is a strong feeling out here in the Middle West that the Federal Reserve is not functioning, that it took no adequate steps to check the over-inflation preceding the crash of October, 1929, and is not now acting adequately to check the over-deflation of today. In both cases it has let the pendulum swing too far.

Why is it, when call money is quoted at 1½% in New York, that it is practically impossible to procure a bank or insurance loan out here? What we need now is elasticity of credit, rather than stringency. **We have been deflated enough.** The time has now come to make it possible for farmers, merchants and business men to borrow money on values which are **fundamentally sound** under fair business conditions.

We have got to assume that America **is a going concern.**

To assume the opposite—that every one is worth only what his assets would bring at distress sale is, it seems to me, disastrous; to require every borrower to liquidate, to abandon their farms, their homes, their stocks of merchandise, force values still further down. The thing defeats itself."

Mr. Pettengill is right, we must assume that America is a going concern, and to assume the opposite, that everyone is worth only what his assets would bring at distress sale— do you see the point? If all of us were forced to liquidate at a distress sale, you know what happens when buildings go into the hands of a receiver, when the law steps in and sells your house and property, you know what a distress asset is, and loans ought not to be made upon the value of distress assets. They eat up things, and what do they call it—costs! Somebody comes and hands you a little paper and collects $2.00, and the costs run up, and along come the lawyers! (laughter) Now listen to this conclusion:

"How many people are there who are not buying straw hats or house paint because of the fear that they must conserve their cash resources in order to meet a demand to liquidate the mortgage on their homes."

Absolutely true! The bank that says: "You have got to pay this mortgage now" is a bank that ought to be taken out of the banking business. (Applause) Absolutely unnecessary! It is absolutely unnecessary! Their vaults are full of money now even to the extent that some of them are not accepting deposits, and in the face of this situation the bank says: "I am sorry, but you have got to pay us." I wish that those who are in debt and who have mortgages would organize a movement of protest in Chicago and Cook County and help get these things cleaned up through the pressure of public opinion. There is more than one thing where there ought to be an amortorium, and this is one. I am talking about the interest situation, and if we got this cleaned up our splendid mayor would not be having such a time to get tax relief for Chicago and Cook County.

"Loans that are fundamentally sound should be left alone, or at least debtors should be assured that they will have time to amortize. Your committee cannot visualize the tremendous effect that would immediately result from a public announcement that bank examiners are instructed to allow good borrowers time to liquidate in an orderly manner."

Talk about all the speeches that you have heard, and messages of popes, and everything else, this is common sense! I am

glad that we have one great man in Congress next year who knows what this situation is about.

"The Federal Reserve has got to do what it was designed to do. It has got to give business **a chance to breathe.** At the present time, when the patient is gasping for air, it is sitting on his chest and struggling for his spare change.

America needs the application of purchasing power. The situation is bad enough with little or no purchasing power in the hands of the millions of idle working men. Nevertheless there is still a tremendous amount of stagnant purchasing power in the country."

Real estate and all other values, why make the situation worse than it already is?

"This stagnant purchasing power is held back from turning the wheels of industry by fear of forced liquidation of loans, and by the belief that commodities and other values will go still lower. Reassure sound business."

What is sound business? The necessities of life, clothing, meat, food, these sound enterprises, and under the economic needs of the present a schedule of percent like the automobile industry.

"Keep them from lightening the boat by tossing everything overboard, and you will at the same time go a long way to stop further commodity declines."

That, to my mind, is an utterance, and if the subcommittee of the United States Senate on Banking and Currency investigates the Federal Reserve System, which you sometimes doubt, when things are so plain, why, they will do exactly what we have outlined here today. America is a going concern! America is not at the bottom! America, at its worst, can get up without becoming any more involved. We, to-day, have the key, and the key is the people, it is in their hands. By public opinion and public pressure. These should organize so that those who see the situation will see it wholly and clearly, and will make the sun shine again in our economic life, and we will see building, the next time, on the basis of true value and so work between labor and capital in the manufacturing enterprises of the necessities and luxuries of life that a situation of such abnormal extremes cannot obtain again. We will build not only upon the laws of profits, we will build on the laws of humanity and every man will have a bigger share in the thing his hands produce, and every man whose brains possess organizational genius and anticipatory capacity for the commodities needed will work together for the peace and prosperity of this America of ours.

Let's float our five million dollar loan for public improvements! It did not take us long to float millions and send them to Europe. Do so and keep them home, and out of the prosperity it will be possible for us to pay and meet our obligation. I love the challenge of these bad times, because in them, and through them, I see shining the glittering hope of better time to come." (Applause.)

## ANNUAL MEETING

On Monday evening, June 15th, the Peoples Church of Chicago held its 19th Annual Meeting in Channing Hall. A dinner preceeded the meeting which was so largely attended that extra chairs and tables had to be provided. By the time the president, Mr. Elmer A. Rich, called the meeting to order Channing Hall was filled to overflowing. It was the most largely attended of any annual meeting ever held by the church —a fitting climax to the great season which the Church has had.

Mr. Rich called for reports from the presidents of all the allied organizations of the

church, Mrs. Charles L. Roberts reported for the Woman's Club and was enthusiastically received. Mr. Charles W. Denicke, superintendent of the Church School, gave an inspiring account of the work of the school. Miss Ruth Costello, the president of the Uptown Players presented a resume of the season's production. Mr. Elbert Beardsley outlined the programs of the Sunday Afternoon Forum. Miss Helen Williams spoke on the activities and ideals of the Junior Woman's Club. Mr. N. T. Ladenson made all exhaustive report on the work of the church Service Committee and gladdened the hearts of all present by its optimistic content. Mr. Thos. A. Harrison as treasurer was probably heard with greater expectancy and interest than any one else for the financial condition of the times has increased the difficulty of our own finances. It seemed impossible that we should have come thru this difficult year as we have. With the exception of some of our building fund obligations we have successfully met the year from a financial point of view. It was the expressed ambition of all that the coming year we would make up for our inability to cover one or two items connected with the building fund. Mr. Harrison's report was an inspiration to all present. Mr. Harrison made the secretary's report which gave evidence of the great amount of detail work necessary in an institution as large as ours. The obligation which the Church has toward Mr. and Mrs. Harrison is no more clearly revealed than in these annual reports. Their loyalty and devotion to the work is felt and known by the hundreds of people with whom they come in contact during the year. With certainty can it be said that no church anywhere has a more systematic, careful and effective administration of its technical and detail affairs than will be found in the office of the Peoples Church of Chicago. Mr. Fred Peet as president of the Laymen's League made a report on the work of the men of the Church during the past winter. Mr. Emerson Abernethy our choir director and Mr. Walter Flandorf our organist both made brief addresses of felicitation and appreciation. Following the reports the annual election of three members to the Board of Trustees took place. The chairman of the nominating committee, Mr. Walter Hermsdorf, reported for his committee that the three members whose terms expire be re-nominated for election. Nominations were closed and Mr. Elmer A. Rich, Mr. N. T. Ladenson and Mr. Thos. A. Harrison were elected to succeed themselves. Mr. Rich, the president then invited Mr. J. A. Moore, vice-president of the Laymen's League to occupy the chair while the board of trustees retired for their regular monthly meeting. Mr. Moore called on various members present for brief speeches and then invited Mr. Rollin B. Organ to the platform who gave a very inspiring address on what the church means to him. Mr. Organ is one of the oldest and most devoted members of the church. The Board of Trustees adjourned their meeting and returned to the annual meeting with the announcement that they had re-elected the same officers of the Board.

Mr. Rich then called upon our pastor Dr. Bradley who gave his 19th annual message to the members of the Church. Never in all the years has he spoken more feelingly and deeply. The address was a baptism and a benediction. From the very depths of his soul he poured forth his innermost feelings about the church, its achievements and his hopes for its future. No adequate description of its effect on the meeting can be given. The closing moment will never be erased from the hearts of those who were there. Every

member present made a re-dedication to the ideals of the Church. It was nearly 11:00 o'clock when the meeting adjourned and Dr. Bradley remained another hour bidding "good bye" to all who came forward to clasp his hand.

The church now enters its 20th year under his pastorate. May every member and friend determine by every possible manner to help make it a year of unprecedented achievement and influence.

The congregations during the past year have been the best in its history. All winter long the auditorium has been packed, Channing Hall where amplifiers were installed was filled and hundreds turned away from the evening services.

All the organizations are working in harmony and precision. An atmosphere of peace and love prevades the church. The hundreds of radio friends have been a constant source of encouragement. The radio ministry of the church is constantly increasing. Without doubt we have one of the largest radio congregations in the entire country.

As we survey the past we have hope for the future. Mere bigness is not proof of greatness, but we of the Church do believe that we can achieve bigness **and** greatness!

Nineteen years are behind us. The twentieth now dawns. May the beacon lighted so many years ago continue to burn with undiminishing brightness.

G. T. B.

## PASTOR'S CALENDAR

Dr. Bradley kept the following engagements during the month of June:

2—Address, Marion, Indiana
3—Address, Argos, Indiana
4—Address, Rock Falls, Ill.
5—Address, Francis Parker School
5—Address, Des Plaines, Ill.
7—Sermon, Peoples Church
7—Sermon, Barrington, Ill.
8—Address, Lake Shore Club
9—Address, Lakeview School of Nurses
10—Address, Wheaton, Ill.
11—Address, Grand Rapids, Mich.
12—Address, Elgin Academy, Elgin, Ill.
13—University of Illinois Commencement
14—Sermon, Peoples Church
15—Annual Meeting Peoples Church
16—Address, Chicago Heights, Ill.
17—Address, Grand Rapids, Mich.
18—Address, Dubuque, Iowa
19—Address, Columbus, Ohio
21—Address, Western State Teachers College
22—Left for Tower, Minnesota
27—Address, Chisholm, Minnesota.

## WEDDINGS

**July**

1—Melbourne H. Hagen and Marcella Hussman
6—Hilbert A. Berndt and Violet Pelton
6—Jerome A. Holzinger and Florence Wells
10—Philip H. Miller and Dorma Peet
17—John R. Snowden and Duzzard Ralston
20—George E. Ackhart Jr. and Hattie Meissner
20—John H. Neu and Marion Root
20—Maurice Mitchell and Mabel E. Strohm
20—Harold A. Nunn and Florence Eddleman
20—William McKinley Smith, Jr. and Mildred Therrien Stang

## FUNERALS

**July**

1—Mr. Frank Bieg, Interment, Oakridge
1—Mr. Mark E. Burton, Interment Acacia Park.

## CHURCH NEWS

Dr. and Mrs. Preston Bradley are spending their vacation at Arden Lodge, Black Duck Island, Lake Vermilion, Tower, Minnesota. They will be pleased to greet any church or radio friends who may be in the vicinity during the summer. Tower is 90 miles north of Duluth on beautiful Lake Vermilion.

On Sunday, June 21st, Dr. Bradley gave the Baccalureate sermon for the graduating class of the western State Teachers College located at Kalamazoo, Michigan. In spite of the great heat nearly 2000 people attended. The exercises were held in the Auditorium.

On June 19th a banquet and reception was given by the Conservationists of Ohio and the Izaak Walton League to Dr. Bradley in Columbus. Gov. White, the chief executive of the state extended the greetings.

The Lakeview Hospital School for nurses held their graduating exercises this year in the Peoples Church of Chicago. Dr. Bradley gave the address on "The Value of An Ideal."

If these words are being read by one who is not a subscriber to The Liberalist will you kindly accept this as an invitation to become one? Our little magazine is published once a month during the entire church year. Every number contains a sermon as delivered by Dr. Bradley from the pulpit. The subscription price is one dollar a year, mailed to any address. No one connected with the magazine receives any remuneration. All monies above the cost of mailing goes to the treasury of the church. Will you not become a subscriber or if your subscription has expired will you please renew? We hope to improve the magazine during the coming season and would greatly appreciate your support.

The closing service for the season was held Sunday, June 14th. The congregation packed every available space in the auditorium with many unable to find seats. It was a triumphant service and will never be forgotten. Services will be resumed Sunday morning September 20th at 10:45 a. m.

The church office will remain open during the entire summer with the exception of Saturday afternoons. Visitors and radio listeners will be cordially welcomed. The Church auditorium will be opened for those who desire to see the place from which their religious services are broadcast. Last Summer many visitors and radio friends visited the Church.

It is sincerely hoped that our friends and members will remember that we have many expenses which continue twelve months in the year. Your summer contributions are just as important as the winter support. Will you not do your best with the pledges and offerings?

## THE MUSIC

The members of the church, congregation and radio audience desire to express their appreciation to Mr. Emerson Abernethy, our director, Mr. Walter Flandorf, the organist, Mr. Robert Ring, the pianist, and every member of our chorus choir for the musical offerings which have been so graciously and artistically given during the year. Our chorus choir is a voluntary group and their attendance is evidence of their loyalty and love for the Church. We want our entire musical staff to know how deeply we feel their invaluable assistance.

## THE USHERS

In many respects the 30 ushers of our church have the most difficult place of all in the church. In a church where a service is announced for 7:30 and the church is filled at 6:30 with hundreds demanding seats already filled it is not easy to stand at exits and handle the people. The ushers have given 5 and 6 hours of their time on Sundays and we all appreciate their services. Our ushers are a hardworking group and do their very best to meet the requests of the attendants. We salute them for the efficient handling of the very difficult conditions.

## SEATS

All seat-holders are asking to make their reservations for the morning services as soon as possible. The seats are twenty-five dollars for the Church year. This amount can be paid at the convenience of the seat-holders. All arrangements are to be made with the Church secretary, Mrs. Harrison, who will be glad to answer communications or telephone calls concerning them.

Kindly call the church office Longbeach 6878 and make your reservations early. The same seats as held during the past will be given if reservations are made as soon as possible. Over 1000 seats are never offered for reservation but are held free for any who care to attend. Kindly get in touch with the church office soon.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE PEOPLES CHURCH

On Monday, June 29th, about 75 of our members gathered at the church to motor to the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Beck, near Libertyville, where they were to be their guests for the day.

The temperature was nearing 100 degrees, but this seemed to be forgotten as they started on the little journey that was the beginning of the most delightful day's outing in the history of the Club.

A large American Flag greeted us as we came upon the home so beautifully situated among many stately old pines and hickories, and as we turned into the yard and up the winding driveway we were most graciously welcomed by our hostess. Then words of greetings and a drink from the old well, cold and sparkling as it came from the spout. Water from "The Old Oaken Bucket" could not have been half as good as this to warm thirsty travelers!

Walking over to the west of the spacious shaded lawn, one came upon groups of tables where soon a most delightful luncheon was served by Mrs. Beck and some of the ladies who so kindly assisted her. After luncheon, Mrs. Daisy Schulten, our newly elected vice-president, asked for attention while she read a message to the Club from Dr. and Mrs. Bradley as follows: "We wish we could join you today in accepting the hospitality of our good friends, Dr. and Mrs. Beck. Know you will have a wonderful day and our thots will be with you. With best wishes to you all. Dr. and Mrs. Bradley."

There was also a message from our new president, Mrs. Walter Hermsdorf who with her husband was taking a vacation in the east. Dr. and Mrs. Bradley's message came from Arden Lodge, Lake Vermillion. Both of these messages were very enthusiastically received by all. The tables were then cleared and a great many of the ladies played bridge while others roamed around, some taking pictures, others visiting. Most refreshing lemonade and delicious little cookies were served to the ladies and gentlemen, for we must not forget these men who so generously gave their time and cars to assist in transportation.

Many, many lovely prizes were given, and it was with regret that we found the day was nearing an end and time, all too soon, for us to be homeward bound.

The Woman's Club is deeply grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Beck for their charming hospitality. The day will long remain a beautiful memory in the hearts of those who were privileged to be there.
E. M. E. (Publicity Chairman.)

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Could we judge all deeds by motives,
That surround each other's lives,
See the naked heart and spirit,
Know what spur the action gives—
Often we should find it better,,
Purer than we judge we should.
We should love each other better
If we only understood.

Kipling.

---

## ROSES AND THORNS

When Jeremy Taylor had lost all, when his house had been plundered and his family driven out of doors, and all his worldly estate has been sequestered, he wrote to a friend thus:

"I am fallen into the hands of publicans and sequesterers, and they have taken all from me. What now? Let me look about me. They have left me the sun, the moon, and the stars; a loving wife and many friends; and I can still discourse, and, unless I list, they have not taken away my merry countenance and my cheerful spirit and good conscience. And they have still left me the providence of God, and my hopes of heaven, and my charity for my adversaries. And I can still sleep and digest, and eat and drink and read and meditate. Oh, he that hath so many causes for joy, and so great, hath little cause for sorrow or peevishness, and doth not chide the little handful of thorns among his beds of roses."

Samuel Smiles

## EXPECTANCY

The unexpected awaits us at the bend in the road. There are some things of which we may be confident. Life is greater than chance. Character has eternal issues. The events of a single day may wholly modify the program of a lifetime. Lives that have in them the essentials of moral greatness always enlarge their stature, and increase their powers of resistance when confronted by unexpected danger. Such indomitable resistance is not created on the spur of the moment: it is the result of quiet and prolonged loyalty to the highest in the long, arduous routine of daily duties. Mark well the things thou lovest, O child of man!

---

## ATOP THE HILL

Somehow I chose the road that climbed a hill,
And now I think I know the reason why,
Beyond there seemed a spot where earth met sky.
Wild blossoms grew along my path at will,
And each one seemed my soul with joy to fill.
Sometimes a rock athwart my path would lie,
Sometimes a deep rut caused a weary sigh;
But heaven and earth still met atop the hill.
Each insect small was busy at its work;
Gay birds and butterflies were on the wing.
They never seemed inclined their tasks to shirk,
And to my ear all nature seemed to sing;
So let me on that rugged way climb still,
For heaven and earth will meet atop the hill.

Elizabeth Mae Crosby.

## OVE ALWAYS FINDS A WAY

In Kyoto, Japan, is a wonderful temple. It is as precious to the Japanese people as Westminster Abbey is to England. It cost 10,000,000 to build, and took seventeen years.

Everybody gave money to help. A curious thing about this temple is that there is a big coil of rope in the courtyard in front of the main entrance. This rope was used to lift the stones and the pillars and beams into position.

When you look at the rope you find it is not rope, after all. It is made of human hair. When the men and the boys were giving their labor for the building, the women and the girls wanted to do something as well. They were not strong enough to lift the stones and pillars; but, when they heard that the workmen wanted a big, strong rope, thousands of them cut off their hair, plaited it into a rope three hundred feet long and three inches thick, and gave it to the workmen.

They solved their problem by means of love and sacrifice; all problems of life can be solved in the same way.

E. C. World.

## NOT OUT OF TOUCH

The cosmic order cannot be conceived as keeping itself, unless we think of the self as the Administrator, universally immanent, universally administering. As yet we have few symbols for this idea. Perhaps the one with which we can most easily begin is the idea of gravitation. The idea is entirely familiar, though its comprehension is still beyond us. We have all had experience with it. We know it as a force universally immanent. We know that no physical object has been successfully screened from it. Morover, we know that it is itself mathematically intelligible throughout the universe, including our own bodily structure. And so the immanance of gravitation becomes a symbol for the immanance of the Cosmic Intelligence. Gravitation acts universally, according to law. All energy throughout the universe acts according to law. Law is the name we give to the way the Administrator acts. The Cosmic Intelligence is administering the energy of every molecule and of every atom of the human brain, and every constituent of the atoms of the brain, electrons and protons —administering them with orderlines and with purposefulness, so that we ourselves can have capacity for intelligence. And so the sense of the Intimate Presence, immanent as gravitation is immanent, seems more definitely and unescapably real.

(Rev. Minot Simons, All Souls Church, N. Y., in The Christian Register, May 1, 1930.)

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You cannot set the whole world right,
Nor all the people in it;
You cannot do the work of years
In just a single minute.
But keep one little corner straight,
By humble, patient labor,
And do the work that each hour brings
And help your next door neighbor.

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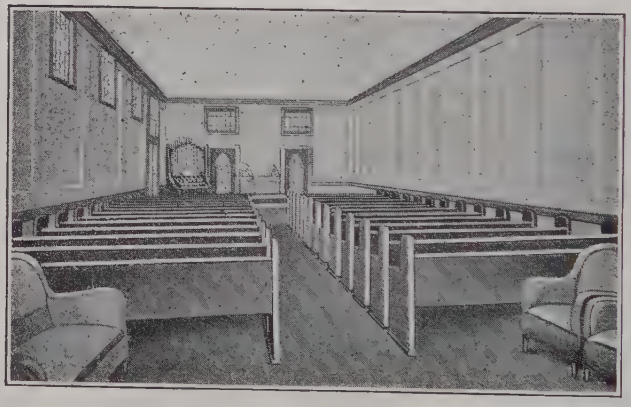

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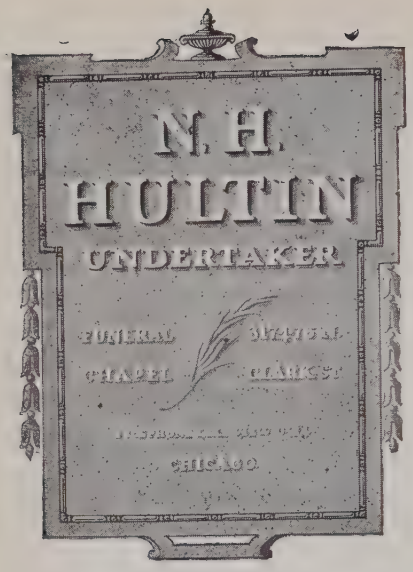


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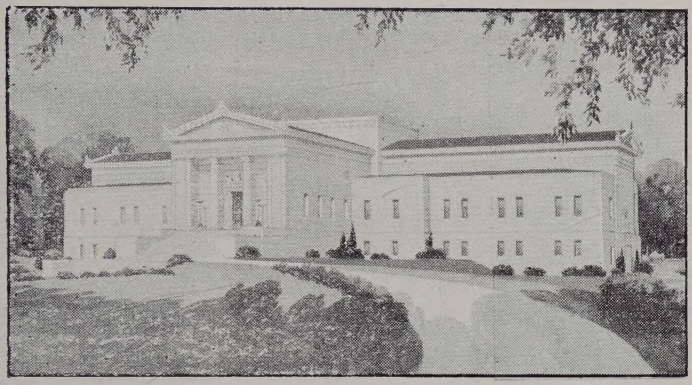

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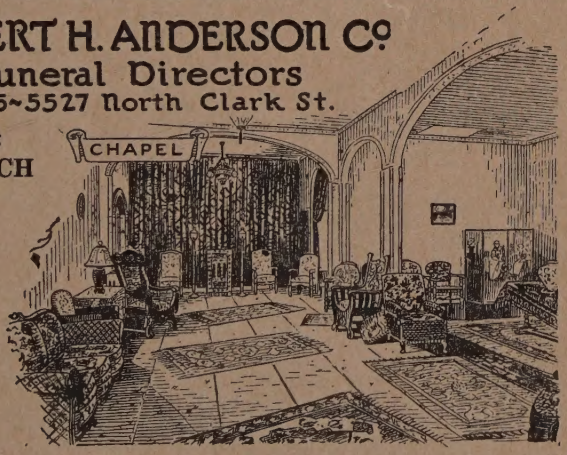


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